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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Expedited Handling
Response Under 37 CFR 1.116

Appln. Ser. No.:	Filed:	Inventor(s):	Atty Dkt:
09/543,951	6 April 2000	W. Dalton	1633-015A
Title: Improved Brush Seal Designs for Turbines and Similar Rotary Apparatus			
Examiner: M. Rogers			Art Unit: 3677

Asst. Comm'r for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231-00017 Page Response VIA FACSIMILE
703-872-9327RESPONSE AND AMENDMENTS ACCOMPANYING
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Dear Sir:

In complete and timely response to the Office Action mailed 18 April 2002 in which the rejection of the claims was made final, a Request for Continued Examination being filed herewith, please first amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Twice amended.) A retractable packing segment for an apparatus that extracts work from the expansion of a gaseous working fluid, said apparatus comprising:

a rotating shaft disposed in a casing,

a plurality of packing segments disposed in a ring and centered on an axis defined by said shaft to provide a seal therearound,

said retractable packing segment comprising:

an inner face for sealing against said shaft and an outer face

supporting a T-shaped extension, said inner and outer faces and said extension spanning opposing side ends, said side ends cut parallel with radii of said axis; and